



**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers  
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### **1. UNBC Geography/Recreation & Tourism Management Program off to Antarctica** [http://www.unbc.ca/releases/2009/02\\_09antarctica\\_trip.html](http://www.unbc.ca/releases/2009/02_09antarctica_trip.html)

A UNBC professor and four UNBC students are in Antarctica for the first University courses on that continent. Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Management professor Patrick Maher and his students are participating in the Students on Ice Expedition to Antarctica from February 12-28.

### **2. Green Mapping in Greater Victoria with Ken Josephson** [http://www.bclocalnews.com/vancouver\\_island\\_south/goldstreamgazette/news/39466054.html](http://www.bclocalnews.com/vancouver_island_south/goldstreamgazette/news/39466054.html)

Green maps are artistic representations of communities including historical, cultural, agricultural and geographical features. Ken Josephson from the University of Victoria of Department of Geography has helped communities create green maps throughout Greater Victoria. "(Green maps) are an artists vision of the community," Josephson said. See: [http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept2/green\\_map.html](http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept2/green_map.html)

### **3. Queen's Geographer Carl Bray on Revitalization of Upper Princess Street, Kingston** <http://www.thewhig.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1437417>

Masters students at Queen's University have been roaming the Upper Princess Street district with an eye to designing a new and vibrant community out of what their instructor, Carl Bray, calls a landscape of "dead car lots." Bray said landowners have to get realistic about their asking prices. "One million dollars an acre is just nuts," he said. "It wouldn't be the first time land developers in Kingston had stars in their eyes." From the Kingston-Whig Standard.

### **4. UT Mississauga Historical and Field Geographer Thomas McIlwraith** [http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/index.php?id=9603&tx\\_ttnews\[tt\\_news\]=2087&tx\\_ttnews\[backPid\]=9582&cHash=3](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/index.php?id=9603&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=2087&tx_ttnews[backPid]=9582&cHash=3)

Historical and field geographer Thomas McIlwraith has knocked on a lot of Ontario farmhouse doors to explore how the land 'speaks' to us, through human use of that land and its changes across time and space. McIlwraith would love to see many alumni return to campus to appreciate the changes and cultural signals of land use around them at U of T Mississauga, to develop their sense of living in what he calls a "thick present," rather than a series of "thin slices" of the here and now.

#### **5. UWO's Patricia Conner Recipient of Western Award for Excellence**

<http://geography.uwo.ca/Honours/connor-western-news.pdf>

While she doesn't teach cartography, Patricia Connor is the 'go-to person' for cartographic advice, encouragement and appraisal in the UWO Department of Geography. As head of the only cartographic service on campus, Connor provides advice on content, design and execution to undergraduate and graduate students. In 2006, Connor received the Award of Distinction for exceptional contributions to the Canadian Cartographic Association and cartography in Canada.

#### **6. York and Queen's Geographers Team up to Study Climate, Jobs**

<http://www.yorku.ca/yfile/archive/index.asp?Article=11923>

York labour studies Professor Carla Lipsig-Mummé is puzzled and concerned by Canada's silence about the threat of climate change and its affect on jobs, employment, people and communities. That prompted her to assemble a team, which includes York geography Professor Steven Tufts and Queen's University geographer Professor John Holmes. Lipsig-Mummé and her team recently received a Tri-Agency Synthesis Grant: Knowledge Translation for their project.

#### **7. University of Waterloo Geography and Aviation Students on the Fly**

<http://www.environment.uwaterloo.ca/admissions/geographyandaviationvideos.htm>

The University of Waterloo's Department of Geography and Environmental Management has a one-of-a-kind Geography and Aviation program. The program is designed to let students graduate with a Bachelor of Environmental Studies degree (BES) and a Commercial Pilot license. A group of Geography and Aviation students from the University of Waterloo tell you about their program and of course, take you up in the air!

#### **8. York U's William Mahaney Pinpoints Hannibal's Route Over the Alps**

<http://www.yorku.ca/yfile/archive/index.asp?Article=11992>

The exact route Hannibal, one of the greatest militarists of all time, took in 218 BC over the Alps to invade Italia has remained a controversial and unresolved question, but York geography Professor Emeritus William Mahaney argues the southern route over the Col de la Traversette is the most likely path. "I think what is really interesting is that I've managed to identify some geoarcheological sites of interest that could be further explored," says Mahaney, former director of York's Geomorphology and Pedology Lab, previously housed in the Atkinson Faculty of Liberal & Professional Studies.

#### **9.9. U Alberta's Theresa Garvin Examines Social Impact of Gold Mining in GhanaProject**

<http://www.science.ualberta.ca/news.cfm?story=87418>

A University of Alberta study shows that a World Bank and International Monetary Fund has changed the relationship between foreign mining companies and the communities in which they mine. Theresa Garvin, an Associate Professor in the Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences and one of the principal authors, said "you have a small group of people taking on the bulk of the cost of development processes in terms of pollution and socio-economic disruptions. But the benefits of mining developments are accrued at the provincial or national levels".

#### **10. Mount Allison U's Michael Fox Part of Town & Gown World Research**

<http://www.mta.ca/news/index.cqi?id=1467>

An exciting new global resource on "Town and Gown" relations and research is now online and one Mount Allison professor is at the helm, or the mouse. Dr. Michael Fox, department head of geography and the environment at

Mount Allison, is one of the lead researchers and developers behind the web site TownGown World — [www.towngownworld.com](http://www.towngownworld.com) — that focuses on collaborative community planning processes for communities that surround higher educational institutions.

### **11. Geographer of the Week: Mary Thornbush, Lakehead University**

<http://geography.lakeheadu.ca/thornbush/thornbush.html>

Dr. Mary Thornbush joined the Department of Geography at Lakehead University as a Contract Lecturer in January 2008 and is entering the 2008-9 academic year as an Assistant Professor at the Orillia Campus. She was formerly a Senior Research Associate at the Oxford University Centre for the Environment, University of Oxford, UK. Her research interests are in geomorphology (fluvial, environmental, and applied geomorphology) and climatology (environmental history, climate and environmental change, and applied climatology).

### **12. Recent Theses and Dissertations:**

Anne Hogan. 2009. "Housing, Health, and Social Inclusion of Older People in Prince George, BC." Unpublished MA thesis in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Geography), University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, British Columbia. Supervisor: Dr. Greg Halseth.

### **13. Other "Geographical" News**

#### **Bin Laden's Hide-out? Geographers Urge for Search of Structures in Pakistan**

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/02/090217141536.htm>

While U.S. intelligence officials have spent more than seven years searching fruitlessly for Osama bin Laden, UCLA geographers say they have a good idea of where the terrorist leader was at the end of 2001 — and perhaps where he has been in the years since. "If he's still alive, he honestly could be sitting there right now," said Thomas W. Gillespie.

#### **Universities are investing as never before in new environmental programs and strategies**

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20090217.SRENVIRONEWPROGS17/TPStory/Environment>

Dalhousie, Simon Fraser, McGill and Ryerson Universities all recently put their administrative seals on some major eco-initiatives: Dalhousie will be welcoming new students this September to its College of Sustainability, part of a five-faculty Environment, Sustainability and Society (ESS) program; Simon Fraser's senate gave the green light to a new environmental faculty, which will bring together five existing programs; McGill just cut the ribbon for an Office of Sustainability; and Ryerson has added a Certificate in Sustainability option for its continuing education students. (Globe and Mail, Feb 17, 2009)

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**GeogNews Archives:** <http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept/cag/geognews/geognews.html>